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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/616,912	07/11/2003	Akihiro Taguchi	11-171	2402

23400 7590 09/10/2004

POSZ & BETHARDS, PLC  
11250 ROGER BACON DRIVE  
SUITE 10  
RESTON, VA 20190

EXAMINER

VO, HIEN XUAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2863

DATE MAILED: 09/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/616,912	Applicant(s) TAGUCHI ET AL.	
	Examiner Hien X. Vo	Art Unit 2863	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 16-21 and 24-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6-15, 22, 23, 28 and 29 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 07/11/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Information Disclosure Statement*

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 07/11/2003. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-5, 13, 16-21, 24-26 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Williams (U.S. Patent No. 5,109,213).

With respect to claims 1, 13 and 16-17, Williams discloses the tire pressure monitor including setting an identification registration condition to the tire air pressure monitoring unit, the identification registration condition allowing the tire air pressure monitoring unit to register the identification of the tire air pressure sensor device when an unlikely signal is received, said unlikely signal being unlikely to be transmitted under normal circumstances (see e.g. col. 4, lines 32-65), transmitting the unlikely signal from

the tire air pressure sensor device (see e.g. col.3, lines 15-26), receiving the unlikely signal by the tire air pressure monitoring unit (see e.g. 3, lines 27-37), firstly registering, by the tire air pressure monitoring unit, the identification of the tire air pressure sensor device according to the identification registration condition in response to the receiver of the unlikely signal (see e.g. col. 4, lines 46-65).

With respect to claims 2-5, 18-21, 26, Williams discloses the invention as claimed including the unlikely signal is a predetermined air pressure in the tire (see e.g. col. 2, lines 43-49), a change of the air pressure in the tire detected by the tire air pressure sensor device, (see e.g. abstract) and the unlikely signal comprises pulse signals (see e.g. col. 1, lines 25-34).

With respect to claims 24-25, Williams discloses the invention as claimed including an air pressure sensor (see e.g. Fig.1, item 20), a memory, a transmitting unit, a receiving unit (see e.g. Figs. 1, 8-11), a determining unit configured to receive a trigger signal transmitted from an exterior of the air tire pressure sensor device and the transmitting unit is configured to transmit an unlikely signal when the determining unit determines that the receiving unit receives the trigger signal (see e.g. col. 10, lines 35-62).

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

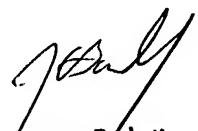
Claim 27 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mock et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,602,524).

With respect to claim 27, Mock et al. disclose the device for monitoring the air-pressure in pneumatic tires fitted on vehicle wheels including the computer (see e.g. Fig. 2), the computer receives an unlikely signal from the air tire pressure sensor device (see e.g. Fig.2, item 29), the identification means for registering the tire air pressure sensor device in a memory (see e.g. abstract).

5. Claims 6-15, 22-23, 28-29 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hien X. Vo whose telephone number is (571) 272-2282. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-5:30) First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Barlow can be reached on (571) 272-2269. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

  
John Barlow  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hien Vo  
September 7, 2004